## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- $1 \quad 1.$  A method for preventing malicious network attacks said
- 2 method comprising:
- 3 receiving a packet from a client computer;
- 4 determining a number of packets received during a time
- 5 interval; and
- 6 rejecting the packet in response to the number of
- 7 packets exceeding a packet limit.
- 1 2. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the client
- 2 computer is identified by a source IP address.
- 1 3. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the
- 2 determining further includes:
- identifying a client data area based on a source IP
- 4 address, the client data area including the
- 5 number of packets received; and
- 6 incrementing the number of packets received.
- 1 4. The method described in claim 1 further comprising:
- 2 determining an action from a plurality of actions
- 3 based on the number of packets received; and
- 4 executing the action.
- 1 5. The method described in claim 1 further comprising:
- 2 receiving a socket request from the client computer;
- 3 determining a number of sockets opened for the client
- 4 computer;
- 5 comparing the number of sockets opened to a socket
- 6 limit; and
- 7 determining whether to allow a socket request based on
- 8 the comparison.

1 6. The method described in claim 1 further comprising: 2 creating configuration settings, the configuration 3 settings including the packet limit. 7. The method described in claim 6 further comprising: 1 2 providing a test script, the test script including one or more attack simulations; 3 processing the attack simulations included in the test 4 5 script; 6 determining whether to change the configuration 7 settings based on the processing; and 8 changing the configuration settings based on the 9 determination. 1 8. An information handling system comprising: 2 one or more processors; 3 a memory accessible by the processors; 4 one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by 5 the processors; 6 a network interface for receiving packets from a 7 computer network; and 8 an packet handling tool to manage packets received 9 from the network interface, the packet handling 10 tool including: 11 means for receiving a packet from a client 12 computer through the network interface; 13 means for determining a number of packets 14 received during a time interval; and 15 means for rejecting the packet in response to the 16 number of packets exceeding a packet limit.

- 1 9. The information handling system as described in claim
  2 8 further comprising:
- means for identifying the client computer by a source

  IP address.
- $1\,$  10. The information handling system as described in claim
- 8 wherein the means for determining further includes:
- 3 means for identifying a client data area based on a
- 4 source IP address, the client data area including
- 5 the number of packets received; and
- 6 means for incrementing the number of packets received.
- 1 11. The information handling system as described in claim
  2 8 further comprising:
- means for receiving a socket request from the client
  computer;
- 5 means for determining a number of sockets opened for 6 the client computer;
- 7 means for comparing the number of sockets opened to a 8 socket limit; and
- 9 means for determining whether to allow a socket 10 request based on the comparison.
- 1 12. The information handling system as described in claim
- 8 further comprising:
- 3 means for creating configuration settings, the
- 4 configuration settings including the packet
- 5 limit.
- 1 13. The information handling system as described in claim
- 2 12 further comprising:
- 3 means for providing a test script, the test script
- 4 including one or more attack simulations;

	means for processing the attack simulations included
	in the test script;
	means for determining whether to change the
	configuration settings based on the processing;
	and
	means for changing the configuration settings based on
	the determination.
14.	A computer program product for preventing malicious
	network attacks, said computer program product
	comprising:
	means for receiving a packet from a client computer;
	means for detecting a number of packets received
	during a time interval; and
	means for rejecting the packet in response to
	detecting that the number of packets exceeds a
	packet limit.
15.	The computer program product as described in claim 14
	wherein the client computer is identified by a source
	IP address.
1.0	m)
16.	The computer program product as described in claim 14
	wherein the determining further includes:
	means for identifying a client data area based on a
	source IP address, the client data area including
	the number of packets received; and
	medis for incrementing the number of probate received
	means for incrementing the number of packets received.
17.	The computer program product described in claim 14

12

3 means for determining an action from a plurality of 4 actions based on the number of packets received; 5 and 6 means for executing the action. 1 The computer program product described in claim 14 18. 2 further comprising: means for receiving a socket request from the client 3 4 computer; means for determining a number of sockets opened for 5 6 the client computer; means for comparing the number of sockets opened to a 7 8 socket limit; and 9 means for determining whether to allow a socket 10 request based on the comparison. 19. The computer program product described in claim 14 1 further comprising: 2 means for creating configuration settings. the 4 configuration settings including the packet 5 limit. 1 20. The computer program product described in claim 19 2 further comprising: 3 means for providing a test script, the test script 4 including one or more attack simulations; 5 means for processing the attack simulations included 6 in the test script; 7 means for determining whether to change the 8 configuration settings based on the processing; 9 and means for changing the configuration settings based on 10 11 the determination.